

JOHN AND ELIZABETH  
MARSHALL BAIRD

John Baird was born May 17, 1826 at  
Belentory, Antrum, Ireland, a son of Robert

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and Agnes McGown Baird. The "c" was dropped before they came to America in later years. The Bairds had a large land grant in Ireland, and later moved to Greenock, Scotland, where John became a sergeant on the police force. He married Elizabeth Marshall in 1844. She was born April 14, 1862 in Parkhead, Lanarkshire, Scotland, a daughter of William and Ann Wiley Marshall.

Converted to the LDS Church by missionaries, the Bairds left Liverpool on April 29, 1865 on the ship "Bellwood," a freighter that had been pressed into passenger service. They arrived in Castle Gardens, N. Y., in June of 1865 and moved to Williamsburg, N. Y., to prepare for the journey west. Fourteen months later they traveled in cattle cars to St. Joseph, Mo., went by river boat to Council Bluffs and then purchased a wagon, three yoke of oxen and provisions for the journey. They traveled in the Capt. Chipman company, arriving in Salt Lake City in October of 1866. They moved to Heber in November, 1866, and their last child, Martha Jane, was born in Heber on Feb. 14, 1867.

During the trip across the plains, the two oldest boys, Robert and William, obtained work driving teams and wagons, and so were separated from the rest of the family. During their journey they discovered a buffalo skull on the plains bearing news of the massacre of their family. However, when they arrived later at the Tithing Yard in Salt Lake they were overjoyed to meet their loved ones whom they presumed dead.

The family homesteaded the Baird Ranch in Lake Creek, and then later moved to Hooper, but returned to Lake Creek and Center where John served as a counselor in the bishopric to Bishop Benjamin Cluff. Elizabeth made excellent bread and always furnished bread to the ward to be used in the sacrament service. She was also adept at making clothing, soap, candles, carpets and mattresses, all by hand.

John was active in building roads, bridges, reservoirs and irrigation systems in addition to his farming and ranching activities. He moved to Heber in his later years and died there at the age of 80 in 1907. Elizabeth fell on ice in 1905 and broke her hip and died of the mishap on June 14, 1905.

Their children included Robert M., born Nov. 23, 1845; William, born Nov. 3, 1849; Anne C., born Dec. 8, 1851; Elizabeth, born

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March 14, 1855; John, born Oct. 2, 1857 and died as an infant; James R., born July 17, 1860; Joseph, born March 7, 1863 and died as an infant; and Martha Jane, born Feb. 14, 1867.